

Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Applicant: Travis J. Parry

Serial No.: 10/086,746

Filed: February 28, 2002

Docket No.: 10012900-1

Title: DEVICE-SPECIFIC FIREWALL

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A printer, comprising:
 - a processor;
 - a printing component in communication with said processor; and
 - a filtering program stored in a memory device or firmware of said printer and associated with said processor so as to evaluate a file received at said printer and control printing of said file by said printing component based on at least one prespecified characteristic from a packet including said file,
wherein if said at least one prespecified characteristic is an undesirable characteristic, processing of said file by said printer is terminated and printing of said file by said printer is prevented, and
wherein if said at least one prespecified characteristic is a desirable characteristic, processing of said file by said printer proceeds and printing of said file by said printer is conducted.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said at least one prespecified characteristic comprises at least one of a file type, a source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file size, a password, time of transmission, cumulative number of files sent by a user, cumulative number of files sent by a user over a given time, file string, and time-consuming print commands.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said filtering program instructs said processor to cause said printing component to print said file only if said packet lacks said undesirable characteristic and has said desirable characteristic.

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9. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said undesirable characteristic comprises one of a file type, a file string, a source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file size, and at least one prespecified command.

10. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said desirable characteristic comprises one of a source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file type, and a password.

11. (Previously Presented) A method for filtering data received by a printer, comprising:
transmitting an unfiltered printing packet comprising at least one file from a source computer,
across a network, to a printer of said network;
receiving said unfiltered printing packet at said printer;
evaluating at said printer at least one prespecified characteristic of said printing packet by a
processor housed within said printer; and
controlling processing of said at least one file of said printing packet by said printer based on
said evaluating, including preventing processing and printing of said at least one file
by said printer if said at least one prespecified characteristic is an undesirable
characteristic, and permitting processing and printing of said at least one file by said
printer if said at least one prespecified characteristic is a desirable characteristic.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said evaluating at least one
prespecified characteristic comprises evaluating at least one of a file type, a file string, a
source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file size, a password, time of transmission,
cumulative number of files sent by a user, cumulative number of files sent by a user over a
given time, and time-consuming print commands.

13-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said controlling comprises
permitting processing of said at least one file of said printing packet by said printer if said
printing packet lacks said undesirable characteristic and has said desirable characteristic.

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16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said evaluating comprises evaluating said printing packet for at least one said undesirable characteristic comprising at least one of a file type, a file string, a source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file size, and at least one prespecified command.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said evaluating comprises evaluating said printing packet for at least one said desirable characteristic comprising at least one of a source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file type, and a password.

18-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) A system for filtering a file transmitted to a printer, comprising:

a printer comprising:

 a processor in communication with a network across which at least one file has been transmitted; and

 a filtering program associated with said processor so as to evaluate said at least one file at said printer and control printing of said at least one file by said printer based on at least one prespecified characteristic from a packet including said at least one file,

wherein printing of said at least one file by said printer is prevented if said at least one prespecified characteristic is an undesirable characteristic, and

wherein printing of said at least one file by said printer is conducted if said at least one prespecified characteristic is a desirable characteristic.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said filtering program is stored by at least one of a memory device and firmware.

22-23. (Cancelled)

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24. (Currently Amended) The ~~printing system~~ printer of claim 1, wherein a message is generated if said at least one prespecified characteristic is said undesirable characteristic and processing of said file is terminated.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising: sending a message to said source computer if said at least one prespecified characteristic is said undesirable characteristic and processing of said at least one file is prevented.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein said at least one prespecified characteristic comprises at least one of a file type, a file string, a source computer identifier, a user identifier, a file size, a password, time of transmission, cumulative number of files sent by a user, cumulative number of files sent by a user over a given time, and time-consuming print commands.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein said packet, prior to filtering, further includes instructions for said printer, the instructions comprising information about a source of media onto which printing of said at least one file is to be effected, information about orientation in which said at least one file is to be printed on a media, information about whether printing is to be effected on one or two sides of a media, information about a number of copies to be printed, or information about whether multiple copies should be collated.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, further wherein printing is conducted only if said at least one prespecified characteristic lacks said desirable characteristic and has said desirable characteristic.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein a message is generated if said at least one prespecified characteristic is said undesirable characteristic and printing is prevented.

30. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said undesirable characteristic comprises a file having a certain extension.

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31. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said undesirable characteristic comprises a file including a particular file string.

32. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said undesirable characteristic comprises a file size exceeding a maximum threshold.

33. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said undesirable characteristic comprises one of an identifier for a prespecified source computer and an identifier for a prespecified user.

34. (Previously Presented) The printer of claim 1, wherein said undesirable characteristic comprises a time-consuming print command.